FRIENDS OF THE SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE STATE PARK, INC.

 Meeting Minutes---March 18, 2024

WEBSITE: smlspfriends.com

ATTENDANCE: 21 members 2 Park staff

President, Nancy Galvan, opened the meeting and asked for a vote on the previous minutes. Bernie Tipton thought that the Turkey Trot race had raised $12,000 and it was in the minutes as $1200. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Susan Eldridge, Treasurer, reported: Income $1403.55 Expenses $300.00 Net Income $1103.55 Treasurers report was accepted as read. We received $957.00 from Turkey Trot.

Travis reported that he has received all the items for the Aspiring Anglers following the death of Doug Kuhn. We are now looking for a Coordinator for this program. Diana has taken the file, hoping she can line up the responsibilities that Doug followed so that someone would know what to expect and how he operated. Also, there can be Co-Coordinators to run the program.

There has been a new window installed in the Discovery Center (the big one at the end of the building). The window will be tinted in the future. Our new Park Manager, Chris Fritze, will begin working on March 25th, 2024. He comes from Natural Bridge SP. There is now a live feed on the Osprey nest in the DC and we’re hoping for chicks this year. 13 cabins are being stained. Brian’s house has been refurbished. 2 new slides at the playground. Many more projects going on in the Park.

Jet reported that Meg is no longer with us. She has taken a full time job in Lynchburg’s Park and Recreation. As we get into Spring and Summer and all of our programs, Jet is in need of many volunteers The first will be March 27thfrom 2:00 -3:00pm to stuff plastic eggs with small candies for our Easter program. At the Easter program on March 30th she needs volunteers to help with outdoor games and inside crafts. Program 1:00-3:30pm She also needs help hiding the eggs in the morning at the DC. Mother’s Day program is May 11th and Kids to Parks Day is May 18th The Park will be interviewing for 2 seasonal interpreters for this summer. The Osprey’s are back and the Purple Martins are also here. Martha reported that the trails are looking great. She will soon start putting up blazes. They are also working on the gardens and hope to buy some plants. There were 19 people who came to watch “Clear Day Thunder” about our American Chestnut trees. Our last program for the Lecturer’s Series is April 7th .Lorraine, for Ray Judd’s Music in the Park, has 3 bands coming and the Cloggers will be there for all 4 nights. Matt, Boat Coordinator, had questions about Captain’s hats. We will find a place in the budget to buy more hats. All, if Friends, get shirts (Captains) .Dick on blue birds will start monitoring on March 29th. He will have a training session on April 5th. If you have questions, contact Dick at hendrixonthelake@yahoo.com Debi Kingston has volunteered to take on the job of the Adopt-a-Highway Coordinator. Thank you Debi!

Respectfully submitted, Diana Brennan, Secretary